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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/993,296	11/14/2001	Gary R. Hammerslag	BOATEC.001CP2	1477
20995	7590	06/15/2005	EXAMINER	
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP 2040 MAIN STREET FOURTEENTH FLOOR IRVINE, CA 92614			BRITTAIN, JAMES R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	

DATE MAILED: 06/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 3677

Response to Amendment


The reply filed on March 3, 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): The election was made to divide out very different modes of operation of the tightener based on the manner in which the cable attaches to the spool. Applicant indicates an election of species I comprising the mechanism where the first and second ends are removably attached to the spool. However, applicant indicates that claims 4 and 5 read on this species. However, claim 4 does not connect the ends of the cable to the spool, it reads on species III, and claim 5 has the cable extending through a bore through the spool, it reads on species IV. As the listing applicant provides substantially changes the search in a manner that doesn't coincide with the reasons for making the election, the amendment is non-responsive and applicant must either indicate claims 4 and 5 are withdrawn or indicate why these claims that clearly read on species III and IV respectively are readable on species I since the ends are not removably connected to the spool. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James R. Brittain whose telephone number is (571) 272-7065. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 5:30-2:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J. J. Swann can be reached on (571) 272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


James R. Brittain
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3677

JRB